



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 774

January Session, 2009

House Bill No. 6028

House of Representatives, April 21, 2009

The Committee on Judiciary reported through REP. LAWLOR of the 99th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A WIND TURBINE PILOT PROGRAM AT A CORRECTIONAL FACILITY.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2009*) (a) The Commissioner of
2 Correction shall apply for a grant pursuant to section 16a-38n of the
3 general statutes to enable the commissioner to conduct a pilot program
4 to install and operate wind turbines, including small wind turbines if
5 appropriate, at an appropriate correctional facility. The commissioner
6 shall determine the appropriate correctional facility after considering
7 the nature of the inmate population, the topography of the area of the
8 facility, the impact on the municipality where the correctional facility
9 is located and the impact on local wildlife. Any energy produced by
10 the wind turbines shall be allocated to the correctional facility, and any
11 excess energy shall be allocated for the benefit of the municipality
12 where the correctional facility is located.

13 (b) Not later than one year after wind turbines established pursuant
14 to subsection (a) of this section are operational, the Commissioner of

15 Correction shall submit a report on the pilot program to the joint
16 standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of
17 matters relating to energy, judiciary and appropriations. The report
18 shall indicate the amount of energy produced by the wind turbines,
19 the amount of energy costs savings, an estimate of the energy benefit
20 to the municipality where the correctional facility is located, and a
21 summary of feedback received by the commissioner concerning the
22 wind turbines. The report shall be submitted in accordance with
23 section 11-4a of the general statutes.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2009	New section

JUD *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 10 \$	FY 11 \$
Correction, Dept.	GF - Savings	Potential	Potential

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Effect	FY 10 \$	FY 11 \$
Certain Municipalities	Savings	Potential	Potential

Explanation

The bill requires the Department of Correction to apply for a grant from the Renewable Energy Investment Fund to establish a pilot program for wind turbines at an appropriate correctional facility. Since the bill requires electricity generated to be first allocated to the Department of Correction and any excess to be allocated to the municipality where the facility is located, savings in electricity costs could result for the Department and to a lesser extent the municipality.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

OLR Bill Analysis**HB 6028*****AN ACT ESTABLISHING A WIND TURBINE PILOT PROGRAM AT A CORRECTIONAL FACILITY.*****SUMMARY:**

The bill requires the Commissioner of Correction to apply for a grant from the Department of Public Utility Control (DPUC) to enable her to conduct a pilot program to install and operate wind turbines at an appropriate correctional facility. The commissioner must select the facility after considering the (1) nature of the inmate population, (2) topography, (3) impact on the municipality where the correctional facility is located, and (4) the impact on local wildlife. Any energy produced by the wind turbines must be allocated to the correctional facility, and any excess energy must be allocated for the benefit of the municipality where the correctional facility is located.

The bill requires the commissioner to submit a report to the Judiciary, Environment, and Appropriations committees within one year after the wind turbines are operational. It must indicate:

1. the amount of energy the turbines produced;
2. the amount of energy costs savings;
3. an estimate of the energy benefit to the municipality where the correctional facility is located; and
4. a summary of feedback the commissioner received concerning the wind turbines.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2009

BACKGROUND

DPUC Grant Program

The law requires the DPUC, in consultation with the Renewable Energy Investments Advisory Board and the Office of Policy and Management, to establish a grant program for clean and distributive generation projects, generated from a Class I renewable energy source, for businesses and state buildings.

The law requires DPUC to award:

1. up to \$25,000,000 to fuel cell projects, and
2. up to \$25,000,000 for all other clean and distributive generation projects (CGS § 16a-38n).

COMMITTEE ACTION

Judiciary Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 42 Nay 0 (04/03/2009)